SECTION TWO

THE LUBBOCK AVALANCHE.

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TEXAS INDUSTRIAL CONGRESS

Avalanche Has Application Blanks For Entering the Contest for Cash Prizes for Year 1914

For the fourth successive year, the Texas Industrial Congress is offering $10,000 in gold in prizes to the farmers of Texas who show the greatest net profits in the production of certain specifield crops, and for the best steers and hogs under certain conditions. The contest is open without cost to the men, women, boys and girls of the state who are engaged in farming.

Applications to enter the contest from your county have been few, and we are writing to get your aid in securing more contestants. Entries in the crop contest will be received until May 1, and entries in the livestock contest until June 1. We are sending you a few announcements of the contest. We hope you will place them in the hands of those who may be interested. We shall be glad to send you more if you can use them. Applications to enter the contest will gladly be sent to anyone on application. Thanking you in advance for your assistance and co-operation, we remain, very truly yours,

Texas Industrial Congress.

Following are set out the details and conditions governing the various prizes in the different classes:

CLASS A—4-Acre Model Farms

(Competition open to all).

For the largest yields of merchantable crops, cost of production considered, from four one-acre plots, lying side by side, and making one body or tract of land, cultivated in cotton, corn, cowpeas, and either kafir, milo or feterita, as the contestant prefers.

$2,000 in prizes: First prize, $500; second prize $300; third prize, $200; and $1,000 to be divided equally between all other contestants whose yields are greater—and whose cost of production is less—than the average yield and average cost of production of all contestants entered in this class.

The crops in Class A must be grown in the order named, as follows:

First Plot—1 acre—Cotton.

Second Plot—1 acre—Corn.

Third Plot—1 acre—Cowpeas. (the vines to be plowed under when at their best, unless contestant is also entered in Class F.)

Fourth Plot—1 acre—Kafir, milo or feterita, as contestant prefers.

Contestants who were in this class last year are requested to as nearly as possible cultivate the same four acres in this year's contest, and to advance each crop one plot; that is, to grow cotton where they had corn; corn on the plot where cowpeas were grown; cowpeas on the plot where kafir or feterita or milo was grown; and kafir, milo or fetrita on the plot where the cotton was grown in 1913.

Corn

All of the corn must be actually weighed in the shuck when it is fully matured and thoroughly dry.

Kafir, Milo and Feterita

When ready for harvesting, the kafir, milo or fettrita must be headed, leaving shanks not more than 3 inches long and all of the heads, when thoroughly dry, must be actually weighed.

Cotton

All the cotton must be weighed in the seed and a written statement of the gin weight of the lint cotton, to be signed and sworn to by the ginner, will be required.

Cowpeas

The cowpeas may be harvested, but the vines must be plowed under as a fertiliser for next year's crop, unless the contestant is in Class F, in which case both peas and vines may be used in foeding livestock. The animal manure from this livestock must be returned to the ground upon which the crops are grown.

When the vines are at their best and ready to be plowed under, the contestant, in the presence of two disinterested witnesses, shall cut and weigh the peas and vines from a plot measuring 10 feet each way (100 square feet). For this purpose the contestant will select a plot that is a fair average of the peas and vines from the entire plot, calculated from the weight of the yield on the average plot will be included and considered in the total production from the four acres.

CLASS B—Texas Corn Club

Competition in this class is open only to boys and girls, 10 years of age or over and under 20 years, on January 1, 1914.

For the largest yield from one acre of merchantable corn, cost of production considered:

$1,600 in Prizes: First prize, $300; second prize, $200; third prize, $100; and $1,000 to be divided equally between all other contestants whose yields are greater and whose cost of production is less than the average yield and average cost of production of all contestants entered in this class.

The conditions governing Class B as those for corn in Class A.

Class C—Texas Cotton Club

Competition in this class is open only to boys and girls, 10 years old or over, and under 20 years on January 1, 1914.

For the largest yield from one acre of middling lint cotton, cost of production considered:

$1,600 in Prizes: First prize, $300; second prize, $200; third prize, $100; and $1,000 to be divided equally between all other contestants whose yields are greater and whose cost of production is less than the average cost of production of all contestants entered in this class.

The conditions governing Class C are the same as those for Class A.

CLASS D—Forage Crops

(Competition open to all.)

For the largest yields of merchantable grain, cost of production considered, from 1 acre of either kafir, milo or feterita, as the contestant prefers, with or without irrigation:

$1,600 in Prizes: First prize, $300; second prize, $200; third prize, $100; and $1,000 to be divided equally between all other contestants whose yields are greater and whose cost of production is less than the average yield and average cost of production of all contestants entered in this class.

The conditions governing Class D are the same as those for kafir, milo or feterita in Class A.

CLASS E—Texas Peanut Club

Competition in this class is open only to boys and girls 10 years of age or over, and under 20 years on January 1, 1914.

For the largest yield from 1 acre of merchantable peanuts and peanut hay, cost of production considered:

First prize, $200; second prize, $200, third prize $100; and $1,00 to be divideded equaly among all other contestants whose yields are greater and whost cost of production is less than the average yield and average cost of production of all contestants entered in this class.

Where the nuts and vines are used for feeding purposes, the conditions for determining the yield are the same as those for cowpeas in Class A. If the nuts and vines are harvested, the yield must be determined by actually weighing them when fully matured and thoroughly dry.

Contestants in this class are urgently advised to enter Classes G and H also, and to use this crop for feeding purposes.

CLASS F—Kleberg Beef Club

(Competition open only to Contestants in Class A.)

For the best steer, judged from the butchers standpoint, and cost of feeding considered, not more than three years old on Nov. 1, 1914, to be fed on the products of the "Model Farm" in Class A, and on other feed to be selected by the contestant, the animal manure to be returned to the land upon which the feed crop is grown:

$1,600 in Prizes: First prize, $200 second prize, $150; third prize, $75; and $25 each for the 7 next best results.

A daily record must be kept of the amount and kind of feed used. The weight of the daily ration may be computed by using a 5-pound lard bucket.

Each steer in this cotest shall be weighed in the presence of two disinterested witnesses on July 1, 1914, and again at the close of the contest on Nov. 1, 1914. Each contestant and his witnesses shall make affidavit as to the weight of the steer at the beginning of the contest and at its close, and the contestant shall make affidavit as to the amount and kind of feed used daily.

CLASS G—Pryor Baby Beef Club

(Open only to boys and girls 10 years of age or over, and under 20 years on January 1, 1914.)

For the best steer judged from the butcher's standpoint, and cost and method of feeding considered, not more than 12 months old on November 1, 1914:

$60 in Prizes: First prize, $100; second prize, $75; third prize, $50; and $25 each for the 11 next best results.

The conditions governing Class G are the same as those governing Class F.

Contestants in this class are advised to write to the Commissioner of Agriculture, Austin, Texas, for a copy of Bulletin No. 30, entitled, "Baby Beef." This bulletin contains valuable information with reference to feeding, etc.

Class H— Holland Hog Club

(Open only to boys and girls of 10 years of age or over, and not over 20 years on January 1, 1914.

For the best hog, judged from the butcher's standpoint, and cost and method of feeding considered, not to be more than 12 months old on November 1, 1914.

$500 in Prizes: First prize, $100; second prize, $75; third prize, $50; and $25 each for the 11 next best results.

The conditions governing Class H are the same as those for Class F.

Contestants in this class are advised to write to Mr. C. C. French, Sec. S. W. Boys and Girls' Hog Club, Fort Worth, Texas, for information and advice on feeding, etc.

SPECIAL

SPECIAL—Exall Combination Prize

Contestants who enter Class B for for 1 acre of corn may, if they so choose, also enter the same acre in Class E, by planting peanuts between the rows when the corn is given its last cultivation; then, after gathering the corn, one or more steer calves, entered in Class G, may be turned in to eat the fodder and the peanut tops. Following the baby beef, the acre may be pastured by 1 or more hogs, entered in Class H, to clean up everything that remains. By this method, most of the nitrogen gathered by the peanut roots reappears in the livestock manure and is left on the land.

To Contestants Who Adopt This Plan And Thus Enter Classes B, E, G, And H, an Extra Combination Prize Of $100 is offered to Each one Who Shall Win the First Prize in Any Two Classes.

General Conditions

No application to enter the contest will be received after May 1, 1914.

Contestants who have heretofore been awarded first, second or third prizes in the contests of the Congress, may enter the contest in 1914, and will be given due credit for results, but no prize awards will be made to them in those classes in a capital prize.

Every contestant must agree not to appeal from the decision of the Committee of Awards, but to accept its judgment in every case as final.

Every contestant must so describe the location of his land that an inspector of the Congress may easily find it, and he must fix the boundaries with stakes that must remain in place until the plot is viewed at the final inspection.

Contestants are requested to notify their local paper of the fact that they have entered the contest.

Contestants may enter in any or all classes for which they are qualified. They may make as many entries in each class as they wish; a separate acre or animal, however is required for each entry.

The Congress will take pleasure at all times in answering the questions of contestants as to the best methods to be followed in producing their crops and fattening their livestock, but they are at liberty, and are urged to seek advice and suggestions from every available source.

Contestants are not required to do all the work themselves necessary to produce their crops. They are expected, however, to supervise and manage them. This rule permits both women and girls to enter the contest without having to do manual labor.

The crops in each class must be grown on a single plot of the requisit acreage, on the same farm, under the same management and without irrigation, except that in Class D the crops may be grown either with or without irrigation.

All yields must be determined by actually weighing them in the presence of two disinterested witnesses, as no estimates will be accepted.

Land upon which the prize crops are grown must be measured in such a way as to be reasonably correct, and the measurements, as well as the acreage yields, must in all cases be proven by the affidavits of the contestant and two disinterested witnesses.

Full and accurate crop and livestock reports must be made by each contestant on the first day of each month, beginning April 1. Failure to make reports for two months in succession will bar the contestant from receiving a prize reward.

Final reports and statements of yields and costs must be made not later than Dec. 1, 1914, and the tickets showing scale weights must be filed with the final reports.

Blank forms for all reports, statements and affidavits required by the Congress will be mailed to every contestant at the proper time.

Contestants do not have to be members of a local, county, or any members of such clubs, the same acre of corn, cotton, peanuts, kafir milo or feterita, and the same baby beef, or hog, entered in the local or county club contest may be entered in the Congress contest.

Cost of Production

The cost of production of the crop is as important as the yield, and will be considered in determining successful contestants. This rule applies, also, to the cost of feeding in Classes F, G, and H.

The rent of the land ,cost of the breaking of ground, preparing the seed bed, seed, planting, fertilizers, cultivation, gathering and weighing, feeding and every other item of expense must be reported.

A careful record, by hours, must be kept of the amount of labor of every person and of every animal used in making the prize crops.

A daily record must also be kept of the kind and quantity of feed, and of every other item of expense incurred in Classes F, G, and H.

On or before Dec. 1, 1914, each contestant will be required to prepare a statement in detail of the cost of production of his prize crop, steer, baby beef or hog.

The labor of every person must be calculated at 10 cents per hour; the labor of every animal used, at 5 cents per hour; the laborSHRDLU cents per hour; each two-horse load of stable manure at 2 per load, commercial fertilizers at actual cost. Ground rent in every case, whether the contestant owns his land or not, will be estimated at $5 per acre. The cost of feeding in Classes F, G, and H., will be calculated at a fixed price for the different kinds of feed and the value of the animal on Nov. 1, 1914 will be determined at a fixed price per pound.

The Henry Exall Farm Book

Every contestant is advised and urged to secure a copy of the "Henry Exall Farm Book," as it will take the place of special bulletins heretofore issued each month by the Congress. This book contains about 200 pages and was prepared especially for the use of contestants by Colonel Exall. Some of the chapters are as follows:

"How I Raised My Prize Crop," being a statement of the methods used by prize winning contestants in past years; "Soil Preparation, Fertilizers, Seed Selection, Cultivation, Rotation and Diversification, Legumes and their uses, Livestock on the Farm, Hog Raising, The Silo, More and Better Corn at Less Cost, Cotton the Great Money Maker, Kafir and Milo, Shallow Seeding, Grains, Peanuts, Irrigated Farming, Dry Farming, Making Farm Work Pay, Lessening the Cost of Production, Keeping Cost Records on the Farm, Etc.

This book is for sale at $1 per copy, and the proceeds will go toward providing the $10,000 prize fund for 1914. Your local banker or merchant can perhaps supply you with one of these books, but if not, write to the Texas Industrial Congress, at Dallas, Texas, and enclose $1 for a copy, which will be sent you postpaid.

Application blanks to enter this year's contest will be gladly sent by the writing or can be secured, as stated, at the Avalanche office.

GREAT COST OF MEXICAN WAR

It was stated in the dispatch telling of the fighting at Tampico, that an oil tank and refinery belonging to the Waters-Pierce Oil Company was destroyed, and also, "the agency of a German commercial concern." The value of the oil company's property was not stated; that of the "German commercial concern" was fixed at $500,000.

All of which is a reminder that the Mexican people will have to pay a stupendous price for the constitutional freedom Villa is fighting for. It is probably impossible at this time to even estimate the total of the bill of damages which the Mexican people have already incurred, but hardly anyone would guess it to be less than a billion dollars. Add only this to the amounts that have been borrowed, and to the amount of fiat money that has been put into circulation by the point of the bayonet, and one sees that Mexico's is already pretty heavily mortgaged. It is a rich country; but generations of unremitting economy and hard work will be necessary to pay the price of constitutional freedom.

The task of funding the debts incurred by the Balkan states caused a serious disturbance in the world's financial markets. The effects which must follow the financing of Mexico's indebtedness are not to be contemplated with perfect equanimity. Not the least of a war's evil consequences is that it levies an imperative tax on the world's financial resources, which can be paid only by sacrificing the interest of commerce and industry. Commercial and industrial enterprise must be denied, that the debts of war may be paid. There is not a civilized nation that will not have to contribute, in terms of self-denial and retarded progress, toward the payment of Mexico's war debt. The debt will be charged to Mexico, but every other nation must sacrifice its interest that Mexico may be enabled to pay. If one nation has a moral right to interfere in the domestic concerns of another nation that has resorted to war, that right comes from the world-wide economic consequences of war, regardless of the location of the war.—Dallas News.

SILOS—ENSILAGE AND HOW TO FEED IT

Some have adversely criticised silage as a feed, and its performance, one man said to the writer, is "under test."

Some of the more common objections are, that it causes decaying of the teeth, "washy" flesh, sour stomach, deranged digestive organs, loss of appetite for other and better feed, etc.

To this section, silage and silage feeding is practically an innovation, but few having had experience; and, as usual, it has met with the fate of most new ideas, more or less, shall we say prejudice?

These indictments are of the "I am told" variety, principally, and none of them have any foundation on fact.

Goffert, a French farmer, published a "Manual of the Culture and Siloing of Maize and other Green Crops" in 1877, covering 25 years of the most practical experience. The following year, Francis Morris, Oakland Manor, Howard county, Maryland, built the first silo in America. The next three years here productive of many enlightening books and pamphlets, treating of silage and its production. Since that time it is estimated by Prof. Henry, at least 100,000 silos have been built in the United States.

In his "Feeds and Feeding," Prof. W. A. Henry, D. Sc., D. Agr., Professor, emeritus, of agriculture, says: "Silage is preeminently a feed for the dairy cow. In almost equal degree, it is a necessity with breeding cattle, growing stock, and young animals, which would otherwise be wintered exclusively on dry forage. * * * Silage tends to keep the bowels normal, the body tissues sappy, the skin pliant and the coat glossy—all of which mark the animals as in condition to make the most from their feed. This is also true of fattening cattle. At the Utah Station, Sanborn found that the flesh of steers fed silage contained 6 per cent more water than the flesh of others fed dry forage."

This, coming from the greatest authority of all time, on feeds and feeding, effectually disposes of hear say objections to silage. The writer has been unable to find mention of the evil effects above mentioned, in any of the experimental reports of silage feeding; nor has any feeder found these difficulties, so far as the writer knows. If these many evils, or any of them, existed, there would be at least some mention of them by someone during the last 35 years of feeding silage in the United States.

The matter of economy alone is enough to make the silo a necessity on every farm in the land. Reason the question from a common sense (dollars and sense) standpoint. In summer, the ideal season for cattle to put on flesh, native grasses usually supplant any feeding operations, for the simple fact that cattle prefer the green grass to any dry feed. Also, at that season fat cattle are coming to market from cheap grass.

Silage, being only preserved green feed, offers the nearest approach to the grasses of summer. Combined with dry feed and grain, it will put on fat at the least expense.

King, of the Wisconsin station, found that the average for four trials, excepting the immediate top and bottom layers, resulted in not over a 10 per cent loss of dry matter of silaged corn. Ten trials, by four stations, give a greater loss of dry matter and crude protein in dry cured corn than in ensiled corn. This, no doubt, would be equally true of other fodder. Also, take note that this crude protein is the valuable part of our greatly prized cotton-seed cake.

In the many trials to find the percentage of loss of the valuable parts of crop, dry cured, it is found that the average tonnage of corn, kafir, sorghum, etc., is near 12 tons green, while after curing under the most favorable conditions, the dry foliage is slightless than four tons—a difference of eight tons! As the silo loses only a little over 10 per cent, one can readily see the enormous advantage of ensiling the grater part of the the forage crop.

From an analysis of silage, it is seen that it is rich in many of the various nutrients required by the animal body, having at the same time the necessary succulence (like grass) form.

Silage alone will not produce the best results when fattening is the object. No one feed will do this, not even cotton seed meal, shelled corn, etc—a balanced ration is an absolute necessity to get the most weight for the least money. No one feed will fulnish all the food elements.

The Wolff-Lehmann standard balanced ration requires for each 1,000 pounds of live weight, to fatten: dry matter, 30lbs; crude protein, 2.5 lbs; carbo-hydrates, 15 lbs; fat, .5lb.

Taking the known constituents of such feeds as are available, the correct combination can easily be found, and when this is done one may rest assured that it is not the fault of the feed itself, should the cattle not prove profitable.

Of course, when considering the acreage required to feed a given number of stock silage, one must bear in mind that in this section, except where irrigation is practiced, one can not realize the tonnage usually secured in the northern part of the corn belt, nor can corn always be successfully grown. Sorghum was found to be but slightly inferior for making silage, and some feeders state that kafir is superior to corn when the kafir is well headed.

Most of the inhabitants of the Plains country can remember the great yields of these crops, when conditions were favorable. Good yields may be had, when cultural methods are in keeping; when a loose-style plan of farming is used, the yield will be of light draught.

Under normal conditions, enough forage can be grown to effectually take care of one head per acre of cultivated farm, for a six months feeding period, part of the crop be ensiled, the balance dry-cured.

Combine with these the necessary amount of cotton seed meal, plenty of fresh water, some shelter, salt, etc., and the feed bill need not be prohibitive of profit.

Sudan grass makes promise of furnishing the best quality of hay; its great drouth-resisting qualities especially commending it to the great Southwestern breeding grounds. The Northern feed-lots have annually drawn upon this section for feeders, but with the coming of the silo and Sudan grass, the feeders' profit, that of late years has been a good one, can be kept in the growers' pocket.

Many feeders are trying to grow their own feed cattle, realizing that the growers are preparing to feed their own cattle.

The old Dutch adage, "the eye of the master fatteneth his cattle," is worthy of much thought. Balance the ration, using silage as the base, see to it that they get the feed intended for them, "watch 'em fat," and history will repeat itself—"the man with a silo" in the North has a strong recommendation with the money lenders. His needs are considered first, because his is considered the safer loan, other things be equal or nearly so.

15 VESSELS IN MEXICAN NAVY

Here is the entire Mexican navy:

Cruiser and Transports—General Guerrero, built in 1908, 1,889 tons.

Progreso—built in 1907, 1,590 tons.

Gunboats—Bravo and Morales, built in 1903, 1,200 tons each.

Tampico and Vera Cruz, built in 1902, 890 tons.

Cruiser—Zaragosa, was built in 1891, and refitted in 1910, 1,200 tons.

Transport—Oaxaco, and probably 4 other steamers, unarmed, or nearly so.

For Harbor Service—The Democrata, built in 1875; Independencia, built in 1897; Libertad, built in 1874.

All one-funneled Laird-built schooners of about 450 tons each.

S. C. Wilson returned Monday from Temple, where he had been in attendance upon the Masonic meeting which held forth there last week.